

**CITY OF DEXTER
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
July 21, 2015**

The regular meeting of the City of Dexter Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:46 pm at the City Offices, 8123 Main Street.

ROLL CALL

Quorum was achieved at 7:46 pm

Commissioners Present: Becky Murillo, Ellen Han, Toni Henkemeyer, and John Coy

Commissioners Absent: Toni Henkemeyer, Katie Koch

Other Present: Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager; Ian Bell; Members of the Dexter Lions Club

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Coy, Seconded by Murillo to approve the minutes from June 16, 2015.
Motion Adopted

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Henkemeyer, Seconded by Murillo to approve the agenda with the change of moving Old Business before Reports
Motion Adopted

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

None

OLD BUSINESS

A. CONSIDERATION OF: IAN BELL'S EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Ian Bell handed out two packets containing information about his proposed project. Ian presented the schematics of bird and bat houses as well as steps leading off of the boardwalk. According to the presentation, the stairs are proposed to be located opposite of the fishing dock and will have a gravel landing at the bottom. Commissioners asked if Mr. Bell could use weed barrier and he said yes. The Commission discussed the location and height of the bat houses. The Commission recommended that the houses be built at least 15 ft. high and be located only on the Northwest side of Mill Creek.

Motion by Coy, Seconded by Henkemeyer to recommend to City Council the approval of Ian Bell's Eagle Scout project as presented in an amount not to exceed \$1,000, with the following changes:

- Post three to six bat houses on the Northwest side of Mill Creek
- Place two bat houses per post

Motion Adopted

B. CONSIDERATION OF: PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT VENDOR SELECTION

The Commission reviewed the final three playground options as presented. The Commission discussed the project with the members of the Dexter Lions Club that were in attendance. The Lions stated that their recommendation as discussed at their last meeting was Game Time/Sinclair. The Commission discussed the additional costs of the project, which included grading and wood chips. The Commission also discussed the timing of the project and phasing. The Commission expressed its preference that the City attempt a spring build because the usable time after the playground is built will be greater with a spring build than a fall build. The Commission gave consensus to plan for grading the site in the fall, finalize design and seek additional funding sources through the winter, then conduct a spring build.

C. MASTER PLAN UPDATES

The Commission discussed how to gather public input for the Master Plan. The Commission gave consensus to conduct a public survey beginning in late August or early September. Justin will put together a draft of the survey in preparation for the Commission's August meeting. The Commission would like to provide survey takers the option of being enrolled in a prize drawing. The survey should be posted online and on Facebook.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

A. CHAIR

No report.

B. COMMISSIONERS AND EX-OFFICIO

No report.

C. STAFF REPORT

The Commission discussed the HRWC meeting. Justin Breyer, Becky Murillo, and John Coy provided a summary of the meeting. There were a number of representatives from various stakeholder groups in attendance. There is no way to stop people from parking along the side of the road. The Commission discussed how building a launch or parking would encourage more people and that there may never be enough parking for the number of users. The Commission discussed the outcomes of the HRWC meeting, and the question "do we want a launch at that location?" The Commission gave consensus that it should be a part of the Master Plan discussion. A short-term goal may be to clear brush and debris, and a long-term goal may be to dredge for more depth. The Commission requested that staff contact Elizabeth from HRWC to get guidelines for clearing brush from the Creek and River.

Justin stated that the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board will be visiting Dexter on August 18th from 2:00 – 3:00pm. The City is working on ways to welcome the Board.

Justin stated that Randy Hermann has resigned as a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission and that the City will be advertising the opening.

Justin also presented a conversation that took place on Facebook regarding splash pads. Murillo commented that in addition to the conversation on splash pads, the Commission should consider including a new play structure for Mill Creek Park as a part of the Master Plan conversation.

NEW BUSINESS

A. CONSIDERATION OF: SELECTION OF COMMISSION VICE-CHAIR

Murillo nominated Han to be the Vice Chair

Motion by Murillo, Seconded by Coy to appoint Ellen Han to be the Vice-Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Motion Adopted.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Murillo, Seconded by Koch to adjourn at 9:23 pm

Motion Adopted

Justin Breyer
Assistant to the City Manager